SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Yes; Sir, always, all Ministries are extending all cooperation. And, the Ministry of Home Affairs is certainly getting the cooperation of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Computerisaton of land records

*209. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accelerate the process of digitization and computerization of land records in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the new computerization programme would help the farmers to establish land ownership, to record succession of ownership and to maintain crop details and obtain bank loans?

THE MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The main objective of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Computerisation of Land Records is to provide computerised copies of ownership, tenancy and crop details as also copies of digitised cadastral survey maps to the landowners/tenants on demands.The computerised copies of Records of Rights can be used by farmers for borrowing money from financial institutions.

The implementation of the Scheme is being reviewed regularly by the Ministry of Rural Development to accelerate me process of digitisation and computerisation of land records in the country through conferences of Revenue Ministers/Secretaries of the States and Union Territories, video conferencing, Area Officers visits and Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs). So far 582 districts and 2970 tehsils/taluks/blocks of the country have been covered and the Ministry have released Rs. 263.51 crores to States/Union Territories under this Scheme.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, my first supplementary is this. You also know, Sir, that the implementation of the present ceiling laws is extremely tardy, and it is all the more unfortunate that lately an environment is being sought to be created for providing exemption from ceiling laws to the industry and big farmers. Some State Governments have already gone ahead with giving relaxation without seeking the permission of the Government of India. I would like to know whether the Government is in favour of such an exemption. If not, what concrete measures have been

undertaken to rectify the situation, and whether any advisory note has been sent to the States. If so, which are those States which have been sent with an advisory note, not to allow these exemptions?

श्री शांता कुमार : महोदय, यह प्रश्न कंप्यूटराइजेशन और डिजिटाइजेशन के बारे में हैं। कंम्यूटराइजेशन के बारे में तो हमने सूचना दे दी हैं कि कितने जिलों में हमने कर लिया है, लेकिन डिजिटाइजेशन के लिए अब नई योजना यह बनी है कि उसमें 75 और 25 के हिसाब से राज्य सरकारें और केन्द्र, मिल करके खर्च करें।

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the question is necessarily for recording the land in the names of owners, and, there, the question of land ceiling also comes. Sir, this is a very serious problem. I would request you that we can have a full-fledged discussion on this.

Sir, my second supplementary is that due to this problem of computerisation or digitisation, whatever is being told, —there are widespread reports -- that a large number of landless peasants or farmers who had been given lands have been dispossessed of the lands because of the faulty system of recording, whether it is done through computers or manually. What measures the Government is going to take to see that the dispossession is stopped and the people, particularly, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, are given the land?

श्री शांता कुमार : महोदय, सरकार यह चाहती हैं कि कम्प्यूटराइजेशन, डिजिटाइजेशन जल्दी-से-जल्दी हो। उस में कठिनाई यह है कि राज्यों का जितना सहयोग चाहिए, वह नहीं मिला है। मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि इस समय तक कुल मिलाकर हम 263 करोड़ रूपया दे चुके हैं जिस में राज्यों ने खर्च 155 करोड़ किया है जबकि हंड्रेड परसेंट हम ने पैसा दिया है। उस में से कुछ पैसा ऐसा है जो कि 97-98 में दिया था। तो हम राज्य सरकारों से बात कर रहे हैं कि वे इस बारे में उत्साह से जल्दी-से-जल्दी कार्य करें। कम्प्यूटराइजेशन में हंड्रेड परसेंट भारत सरकार फायनेस कर रही है और डिजिटाइजेशन में 75 व 25 का रेसियो रखा है। जहां तक ओनरशिप का सवाल है, वह तो राज्य सरकार को डिसाइड करना है, लेकिन जमीन पर जिस का स्वामित्व रिकॉडेड हैं, वह कम्प्यूटराइजेशन और डिजिटाइजेशन के अंतर्गत आएगा।

श्री सभापति : ये कौन-कौन सी राज्य सरकारें हैं जिन को पैसा दिया और उपयोग नहीं किया, वह भी बता दीजिए ?

श्री शांता कुमार : लगभग सभी का कम है।

श्री सभापति : आप नाम बता दीजिए।

श्री शांता कुमार : मैं पूरी सूचना पटल पर रख देता हूं।